

321—24.35(231D) Dementia-specific education for personnel.

24.35(1) All personnel employed by or contracting with a dementia-specific program shall receive a minimum of six hours of dementia-specific education and training prior to or within 90 days of employment or the beginning date of the contract.

24.35(2) The dementia-specific education or training shall include, at a minimum, the following:

- a.* An explanation of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders;
- b.* The program's specialized dementia care philosophy and program;
- c.* Skills for communicating with persons with dementia;
- d.* Skills for communicating with family and friends of persons with dementia;
- e.* An explanation of family issues such as role reversal, grief and loss, guilt, relinquishing the care-giving role, and family dynamics;
- f.* The importance of planned and spontaneous activities;
- g.* Skills in providing assistance with activities of daily living;
- h.* The importance of the care plan and social history information;
- i.* Skills in working with challenging participants;
- j.* Techniques for simplifying, cueing, and redirecting; and
- k.* Staff support and stress reduction.

24.35(3) All personnel employed by or contracting with a dementia-specific program shall receive a minimum of two hours of dementia-specific continuing education annually. Direct-contact personnel shall receive a minimum of six hours of dementia-specific continuing education annually.